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indices, mais pas de preuves absolument directes. Après cet aveu il pourrait cependant réfléchir à la succession incontestable des flores et des faunes dans toutes les parties de la terre, et alors il lui serait bien permis de dire à ses juges, en parlant de l'espèce: 'E pur si mouve.' ”

§ 230. **Southern Plants.**—Mr. A. H. Curtiss, of Jacksonville, Florida, has issued his first fascicle of dried specimens of Plants of the Southern United States, well named, with full printed tickets, at the price of \$20 for 250 species. We have Dr. Asa Gray's authority for saying that the specimens are so well chosen, so full and in every way excellent, that they are very cheap for the money.

§ 231. **Some Rambling Notes on Collecting and Preserving Herbarium Specimens,**

I. At present, judging from the letters I have received on the subject, there seems to be a disposition to make better specimens for the herbarium than has heretofore been deemed necessary. This desire for better workmanship is good and should be encouraged.

A plant designed as a herbarium specimen has the possibility of a moderate immortality opened before it, for it may be destined to be preserved for centuries, and often be consulted for reference when its preserver has long since passed away and perchance returned as food for the plants among which he so long delighted to linger and study.

During the past few years I have answered many inquiries in regard to my manner of preserving plants, and as the queries still keep coming and there appears to be a felt want of fuller details on herborizing, I purpose, in two or three numbers of the BULLETIN, to offer a few suggestions on collecting and preserving botanical specimens.

Let it be understood at the outset, that these prospective notes are mainly designed for those who wish to know how to make good specimens, and also for the younger class of botanists who have very little knowledge yet of the details of collecting and preserving. The old and experienced collector will probably find little that is new to him in these suggestions, as we suppose that the better class of specimens are prepared more or less in the same way. Comment on the notes will be welcome, and if, in any of my suggestions I go astray, I shall be glad to be set right, or if any one has a better method of preparing plants let it be given for the benefit of the novice and, in truth, of us all, as we are all groping after something better and higher from the beginning to the end of life.

Again, it is not to be supposed these notes will have any beneficial effect upon that class of collectors who claim (and they practise zealously what they advocate) that a specimen is made more *natural* (?) by being hastily thrown into press in a hap-hazard kind of way, wilted and crumpled, and then left to take care of itself,—probably not looked at again, until taken out only partially dry but already black and mouldy, to make room for other specimens that are to be brought likewise into the same execrable condition. So long as our admirers of “nature” can secure in an exchange good specimens for their *natural* ones, we apprehend they will go on complacently making their herbarium *fodder* and paying very little regard to what